

**Welcome to Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge**

Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge is one of more than 540 national wildlife refuges in the country. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers the refuge and is responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing the nation's fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the public.

The provisions listed below supplement the general regulations that govern public use on national wildlife refuge areas as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. When permitted, hunting, fishing and other public uses will be in accordance with applicable state laws unless otherwise listed. Only the hunting seasons designated in this brochure are permitted on Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge.

**General Provisions and Access**

By law, national wildlife refuges are closed to all public use activities unless permitted. Hunting, fishing and other public use activities are permitted on most areas of the refuge. Contact the Refuge Manager for current regulations and authorized activities when visiting the refuge.

*Public Entry*

The refuge is closed every day from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise.

Entry onto Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge constitutes consent to an inspection of persons and their licenses, permits, vehicles, game bags, creels and all hunting and/or fishing equipment.

*Pets*

Pets must be under the control of the owner at all times.

*Camping and Fires*

Camping and fires are prohibited.

*Alcoholic Beverages*

The use or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

*Vehicles*

Only legally licensed vehicles are permitted on the refuge.

ATV's are prohibited except for use by disabled persons possessing a refuge special use permit for their use in the designated mobility impaired hunt area.

*Roads*

Vehicles must remain on established roads unless the road is posted as being closed.

Vehicles may be parked alongside roads in a manner that will not block gates or fire lanes or interfere with the normal flow of traffic.

The speed limit on all refuge roads is 15 MPH, unless posted otherwise.

*Disabled Access*

People with disabilities that have special access needs should contact the Refuge Manager to request special use access.

Hunters wishing to use an ATV to hunt big game (deer and turkey) must provide a copy of their state disabled hunting license.

Hunters that receive a permit to use an ATV may only use the ATV in the designated mobility impaired hunt area (see map on reverse side of this brochure).

All rules and regulations pertaining to the use of standard vehicles will be in effect for the use of ATV's.

*Weapons*

Firearms being transported in vehicles during refuge hunts must be unloaded and cased or locked in a secure compartment.

Carrying, possessing, or discharging firearms, air guns, bows and arrows, cross bows, fireworks or explosives is prohibited unless authorized.

Discharging a firearm for a purpose other than to take legal game animals during established hunting seasons is prohibited.

A loaded firearm is defined as ammunition in the chamber or magazine, or percussion caps on muzzleloaders.

Loaded firearms are prohibited within 100 feet of maintained roads or within 500 feet of the paved roads within the refuge.

Discharging a firearm from, on or across any refuge road is prohibited.

*Closed Areas*

It is unlawful to hunt deer with a firearm within 300 yards of a residence when less than 10 feet above the ground without permission of the owner and occupant.

Designated areas will be closed seasonally to hunting, fishing and all other public access.

Other areas may be closed for special management and safety reasons.

*No Hunting Zone*

Entering or crossing a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area" to access areas open to hunting is prohibited.

Discharging a firearm within, into or across a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area" is prohibited.

*Refuge/Cultural Resources*

The removal of any natural, historic or archaeological feature is prohibited.

*Cameras*

The use of trail or game cameras is prohibited.

**Special Hunting Regulations**

*Permits*

Hunters must possess a valid refuge General Hunting Permit for all hunts.

A drawn hunting permit is required for the general turkey hunts.

Permits are non-transferable.

Hunters must possess all applicable licenses, permits and government issued picture ID while in the field.

*Check Stations/Check Sheets*

All deer and hogs killed on the refuge during modern gun hunts must be checked at the check station on the date of the kill prior to removing the animal from the refuge.

All deer and hogs killed during the youth, archery, and primitive weapons seasons must be self-checked at the check station on the date of the kill prior to removing the animal from the refuge.

All turkeys killed on the refuge must be tagged and checked in at the refuge headquarters on the date of kill prior to removing the animal from the refuge.

*Baiting*

Baiting and/or hunting in the vicinity of bait is prohibited.

Baiting means the placing, depositing, exposing, distributing, or scattering of shelled, shucked, or unshucked corn, wheat, or other grain, or other food stuffs, including salt and mineral blocks, to constitute an attraction, lure, or enticement to, on, or over any area.

*Hunter Orange*

All persons participating in refuge firearms hunts are required to wear an outer garment above the waist which contains a minimum of 500 square inches of unbroken fluorescent orange material that is visible from all sides while hunting and while enroute to and from hunting areas. This does not apply to dove, turkey and raccoon hunters.

*Hunter Education*

All refuge hunters under the age of 16 must show proof of successfully completing a hunter education/safety course.

Hunters under the age of 16 must be directly supervised (within sight and normal voice contact) by a properly licensed adult at least 21 years of age.

*Youth Hunts*

A youth hunter is defined as a hunter under the age of 16.

During youth deer and turkey hunts, an adult may supervise only one youth.

During small game hunts, an adult may supervise a maximum of two youths.

*Tree Stands*

Only portable stands are permitted.

Placing stands on the refuge more than three days prior to the opening day of each hunt period is prohibited.

All stands must be removed at the end of each hunt period.

Inserting or driving a nail, screw, spike or other metal object into a tree or to hunt from a tree into which a metal object has been inserted or driven is prohibited.

A safety belt or harness must be utilized while using a tree stand or climbing equipment.

*Hunting Dogs*

Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited.

Dogs are required for the raccoon/opossum hunts.

Dogs are permitted for small game and dove hunting.

All dogs are required to wear a collar displaying the owner's name, address and phone number.

*Man-Driving*

Deer hunting by man-driving is prohibited.

A man-drive is defined as an organized hunting technique including two or more hunters where an attempt is made to drive game animals from cover to shoot, kill, or move animals towards other hunters.

*Tree Marking*

Marking any tree or other refuge feature with plastic flagging or paint is prohibited.

Painted clothespins or clothespins with reflective tacks attached may be used to mark trails but must be removed at the end of each hunt period.

*Deer and Turkey Hunt Hours of Access*

Deer and turkey hunters are prohibited from entering the refuge prior to 4 am on scheduled hunt days. They must leave the refuge no later than two hours after legal sunset.

*Prehunt Scouting*

The refuge is open (except designated closed areas) for prehunt scouting from one hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset.

*Hunting Seasons*

Refuge areas open to hunting are designated on the map of this leaflet.

The following list includes the specific hunts allowed on the refuge.

*Mourning Dove*

September 10, 17 and 24, 2015 (12 noon until 6 pm at designated fields)

Fridays during the second and third State seasons.

During the September dove hunts, the possession or use of more than 50 shotgun shells is prohibited.

*Woodcock*

Fridays during the State season.

*Deer*

The daily bag limit is two deer (only one can be antlerless) and the season limit (total of all hunts) is five deer, at least two of which must be antlerless.

Unlimited hogs may be harvested while deer hunting.

On State designated either-sex days, which are October 17, November 21, and December 26, only one antlerless deer per day may be harvested and this deer does not have to be tagged. On all other hunting days, only one antlerless deer per day may be harvested and must be tagged with an individual antlerless deer tag purchased from S.C. Department of Natural Resources.

An antlerless deer is defined as a deer with no antlers or an antlered deer with less than two inches of antler visible above the hairline.

*Archery Deer*

October 19-24, 2015

December 1-31, 2015, excluding Sundays

Crossbows permitted in accordance with state regulations

*Primitive Weapons Deer*

October 26-31, 2015

Bows and arrows

Muzzleloading shotguns 20 gauge or larger

Muzzleloading rifles .36 caliber or larger

Crossbows permitted in accordance with state regulations

*Modern Gun Deer*

November 5-7, 2015 and November 19-21, 2015

*Youth Deer Hunt (under 16 years old)*

October 17, 2015

Shotguns, centerfire rifles, and all primitive weapons (including crossbows)

Handguns .357 caliber or larger and a barrel length no less than six inches

No military or hard jacketed ammunition

*Quail*

Fridays during the State season.

The daily bag limit is two quail.

*Rabbit*

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays only during the month of January 2016.

*Raccoon/Opossum*

November 30, 2015 (sunset) until 4 am December 5, 2015

January 4, 2016 (sunset) until 4 am January 9, 2016

February 1, 2016 (sunset) until 4 am February 6, 2016

*Turkey*

The bag limit is one (1) bearded gobbler for the entire hunt. A turkey killed on the refuge counts towards your state bag limit.

Youth Turkey: March 26, 2016

General Turkey (Quota hunt): April 7-9, 2016 and April 14-16, 2016

**Turkey Quota Hunt Application Procedure**

Hunters must have a computer-drawn permit to participate in these hunts. Applicants should submit an index card with their full name, mailing address, and phone number by March 1, 2016. Applications may be mailed or delivered in person to the refuge office:

Carolina Sandhills NWR

23734 Highway 1

McBee, SC 29101

Applicants must include a \$12.50 per hunter non-refundable application/hunt fee in the form of a certified check, money order, or cashier's check made payable to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Cash and personal checks will not be accepted.

Up to five hunters may apply as a group by stapling application materials together.

Applications must be postmarked no later than March 1.

A random, computerized drawing will equally distribute hunters between the two hunt periods, placing up to 125 hunters in each hunt. Hunters may contact the refuge office after March 10 to inquire about the drawing results.

**Signs Protect Visitors and Resources**

Millions of people visit national wildlife refuges each year. The impact of human activity, if not regulated, can degrade these wildlands. Signs control recreational activities while protecting natural resources on the refuge. Please respect the following signs.



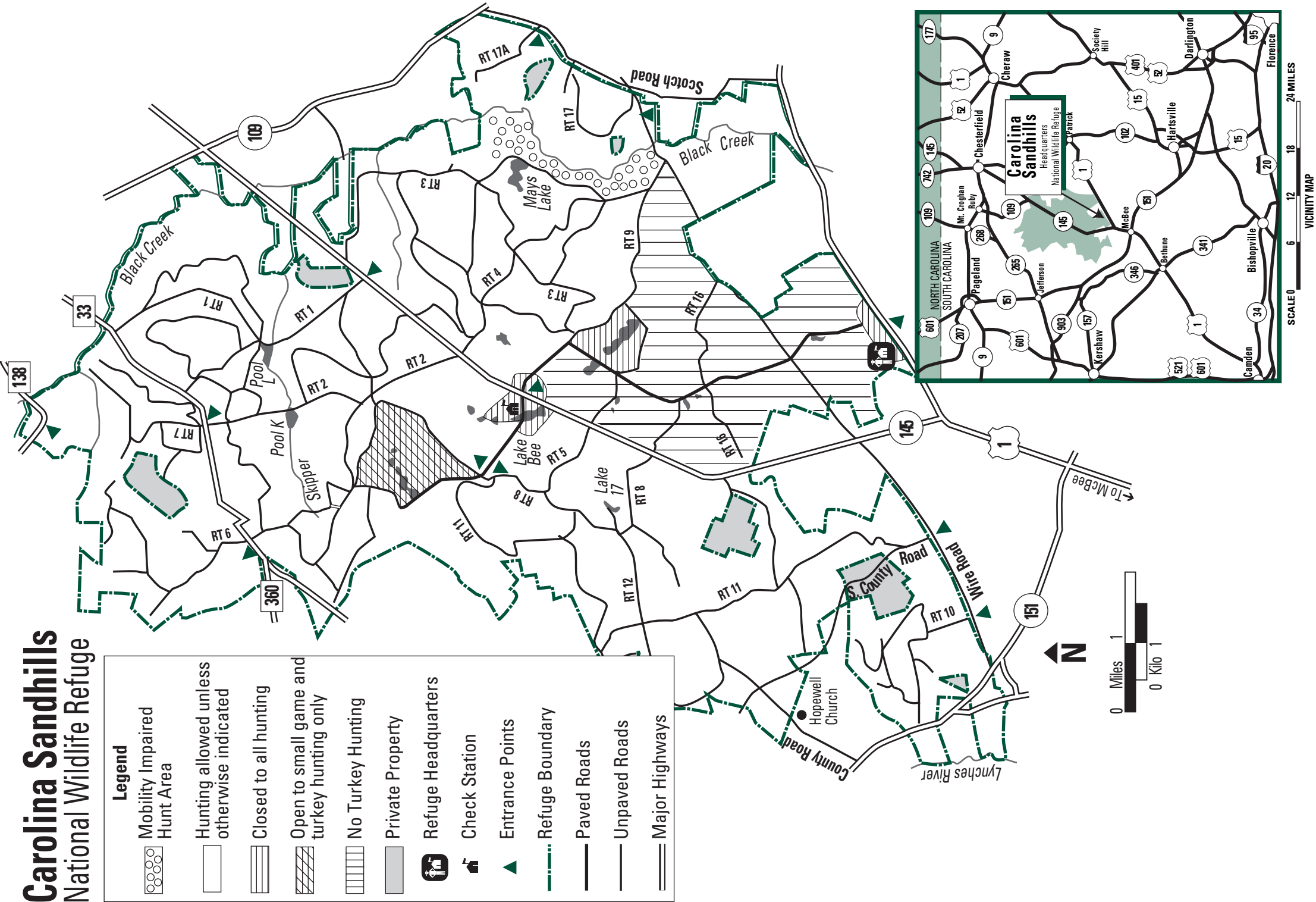
This sign delineates the refuge boundary. Entry is permitted only for authorized uses (hunting, fishing, sightseeing, etc.) in accordance with refuge regulations.



This area is closed to all entry. No hunting fishing or sightseeing is permitted.



No roads or trails are open to the public.



Carolina Sandhills  
National Wildlife Refuge  
23734 Highway 1  
McBee, SC 29101  
843/335 8401  
[www.fws.gov/refuge/Carolina\\_Sandhills/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Carolina_Sandhills/)  
[carolinasandhills@fws.gov](mailto:carolinasandhills@fws.gov)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1 800/344 WILD

June 2015



**Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge  
General Hunt Permit 2015-2016**

I have read and understand these refuge regulations.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_